

MARKED-UP VERSION SHOWING ALL CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A transfer foil for applying a decorative layer arrangement [(7) formed by] comprising at least one lacquer layer [(10, 11, 19)] and a heat-activatable adhesive layer [(14, 15)] to a substrate [(8)], wherein the transfer foil [includes] comprises a base foil [(3)] which is formed by a paper web and which is joined by means of a permanent adhesive [(4)] to the one surface of a carrier film [(5)], at the other surface of which is arranged the decorative layer arrangement [(7)] which is releasable from the carrier film [(5)] under the effect of heat and which on its side remote from the carrier film [(5)] has the heat-activatable adhesive layer [(15)] which serves for joining to the substrate [(8)], [characterised in that] wherein the base foil [(3)] is siliconised on its surface [(22)] remote from the carrier film [(5)] and releasably adheres with said surface [(22)] to a carrier foil [(1)].

2. (Amended) A transfer foil according to claim 1, wherein [characterised in that] the base foil [(3)] with the carrier film [(5)] and the decorative layer arrangement [(7)] is subdivided into a plurality of [label-like] individual elements [(17)], wherein a plurality of such individual elements [(17)] are arranged on a carrier foil web [(1)] in such a way that they can be pulled off same.

3. (Amended) A transfer foil according to claim 2, wherein [characterised in that] the individual elements [(17)] are formed by stamping or perforation [(16)] of the base

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foil [(3)], the carrier film [(5)] and the decorative layer arrangement [(7)] along their intended peripheral edges.

4. (Amended) A transfer foil according to [one of the preceding claims characterised in that] claim 1 wherein, the decorative layer arrangement [(7)] is transparent and the adhesive layer [(15)] which serves for fixing the decorative layer arrangement [(7)] to the substrate [(8)] can be printed upon by means of a printer, for example a laser or thermal printer.

5. (Amended) A transfer foil according to [one of the preceding claims characterised in that] claim 1, wherein the decorative layer arrangement [(7)] has at least one replication lacquer layer [(11)] provided at a surface with a structure [(12)] having an optical-diffraction and/or holographic action.

6. (Amended) A transfer foil according to claim 5, wherein [characterised in that] the structure [(12)] which has an optical-diffraction and/or holographic action carries a transparent layer [(13)] of a material whose refractive index is markedly higher than that of the transparent replication lacquer layer [(11)].

7. (Amended) A transfer foil according to claim 5, wherein [and claim 6 characterised in that] the structure [(12)] having an optical-diffraction and/or holographic action carries a [vapour] vapor deposited layer [(13)] of ZnS, TiO₂, SiO or a material which is of a similar effect in terms of refraction.

8. (Amended) A transfer foil according to claim 1, wherein [one of the preceding claims characterised in that] the heat-activatable adhesive layer serving for fixing to the substrate [(8)] is formed by two adhesive layer portions [(14, 15)], between which is arranged a marking [(19)] produced in a printing process.

9. (Amended) A transfer foil according to claim 8, wherein [characterised in that] the marking [(19)] is formed by printing inks which are perceivable only upon illumination with light of predetermined wavelength ranges.

10. (Amended) A transfer foil according to [one or more of the preceding claims characterised in that it] claim 1, wherein the transfer foil includes the following mutually adjoining constituents:

-a carrier foil web [(1)],

-a web [(3)] of silicone paper having a siliconized surface and a non-siliconized surface, wherein the silicone paper web [which] releasably adheres with its [siliconised] siliconized surface [(22)] to the carrier [paper] foil web [(1)],

-a carrier film [(5)] which is joined by means of a permanent adhesive [(4)] to the non-[siliconised] siliconized surface of the silicone paper web [(3)], and on the free surface of which there are successively provided:

-a release layer [(9)] which is present only if necessary,

-a transparent replication lacquer layer [(11)] having at its surface remote from the carrier film [(5)] a structure [(12)] which has an optical-diffraction and/or holographic action,

-a layer [(13)] which covers the structure [(12)] at least in a region-wise manner and which is of a material of a high refractive index in comparison with the replication lacquer layer [(11)],

-a heat-activatable adhesive layer [(14)], and

-possibly a second heat-activatable adhesive layer [(15)] and between the two heat-activatable adhesive layers [(14, 15)] a printed marking [(19)], wherein

-the replication lacquer layer [(11)], the layer [(13)] of highly refractive material and the heat-activatable adhesive layer or layers [(14, 15)] are transparent and the adhesive layer [(15)] forming the surface of the transfer foil, which is remote from the carrier foil web [(1)], is formed by a material which can be printed upon by means of a printer.

11. (Amended) A process for the production of a transfer foil [according to one of the preceding claims, characterised in that] comprising:

forming [in a first process step] a hot stamping foil [(6) including] comprising [the] a carrier film [(5)] with [the] a detachable decorative layer arrangement [(7)] comprising at least one lacquer layer [(10, 11, 19)] and a heat-activatable adhesive layer; [(15, 15) is produced, which hot stamping foil in a second process step is]

fixedly [joined] joining the hot stamping foil by means of a permanent adhesive [(4)] to an adhesive composite comprising a carrier foil [(1)] and a base foil, [(3)] wherein the base foil is disposed between the carrier foil and the hot stamping foil and [which is siliconised]

the surface of the base foil [on its surface (22)] remote from the [carrier film (5)] hot
stamping foil is siliconized.

REMARKS

Applicant believes that the claims as amended are now in the proper form and respectfully requests early examination.

Respectfully submitted,



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